BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section 19-2301 and 19-2302 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 23. Accreditation of Health Care Facilities"

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2005 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Health - General

17-202.

- (a) (1) The Secretary shall adopt regulations that set standards and requirements for medical laboratories.
- (2) The regulations shall contain the standards and requirements that the Secretary considers necessary to assure the citizens of this State that medical laboratories provide safe and reliable services.
- (b) To assure compliance with the standards and requirements adopted in regulations pursuant to this subtitle, the Secretary shall:
- (1) Conduct an inspection of each medical laboratory for which a license to operate is sought; and
- (2) Conduct an inspection periodically of each medical laboratory for which a license has been issued.
- [(c)] (1) A medical laboratory accredited by an organization approved by the Secretary shall be deemed to meet the:
- (i) State's inspection requirements under subsection (b)(2) of this section; or
- (ii) State's standards under this subtitle if the Secretary determines the standards of the accrediting organization equivalent to the State's requirements.
- (2) The medical laboratory shall submit the report of the accrediting organization to the Secretary within 30 days of its receipt.
- (3) The Secretary may inspect a medical laboratory accredited by an organization for the purpose of a complaint investigation or to validate findings of the accrediting organization.]
- [(d)] (C) (1) In addition to the regulations adopted under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary shall adopt regulations establishing specific standards for medical laboratories engaged in cytology, including regulations that:
 - (i) Limit the number of slides an individual may examine;